August 29, 2007 Response and Amendment "A": December 20, 2007 Client Reference: N0190US

Remarks

In the application, claims 1 through 24 are currently pending. No claims have been allowed.

The non-final Office Action dated August 29, 2007, has been carefully considered. The Office Action objects to claims 8 through 10 for containing the acronym "API." Claims 1 through 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by the non-patent references SimCopter and SimCity.

Objection

Claims 8 through 10 are amended by expanding the acronym "API" to "application programming interface" as disclosed on page 14, line 19, of the specification. No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

Other Claim Amendments

Both currently pending independent claims, 1 and 21, are amended to recite that the map data products represent areas in the real world. These amendments are supported in the specification at, for example, page 4, line 4, and page 22, line 8, through page 30, line 21. No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

§ 102(b) Rejection

Claims 1 and 21, as currently amended, recite the use in a computer game of maps that represent areas in the real world. The cited art, SimCity and SimCopter, do not discuss realworld maps at all. Instead, the cited art emphasizes the creation of simulated environments for gaming. For example, the SimCity 2000 Instruction Booklet says on page 2:

SimCity 2000 is primarily a "building" game where the object is to create and expand your city.

(Emphasis added.) The point of the Sim games is to challenge the user to create simulated environments as best he can. Because SimCity and SimCopter are directed toward creating these

Response and Amendment "A": December 20, 2007

simulated environments, they actually teach away from using real-world map data in a computer game. The use of real-world maps, as in the currently pending claims, would obviate the whole reason for existence of the Sim Games. Thus, pending independent claims 1 and 21, as currently

amended, are patentable over the cited art.

The pending dependent claims are patentable over the cited art for at least the same

reasons as given above for the independent claims 1 and 21.

Extension of Time

This amendment is accompanied by a petition for extension of time and authorization for

payment of the fee associated therewith.

Conclusion

The cited art neither anticipates nor renders obvious the currently pending claims. Thus,

this application is considered to be in good and proper form for allowance, and the Applicant

requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and pass this application on to issue. If, in the

opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this

application, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's representative at the number given

below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Client Reference: N0190US

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Page 7 of 7